(a) the number of departmental and hired vehicles in MTNL Delhi/ Mumbai as on the 31st January, 2002;

(b) whether the officers provided with official vehicles are also drawing transport allowances;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps being taken/proposed to be taken by Government to check the said extravagance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) The Number of vehicles both departmental and hired by MTNL, Delhi/Mumbai as on 31st January, 2002 are as under:

	Delhi	Mumbai	Corporate Office
Departmental	510	486	31
Hired	221	328	10

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) Transport allowance is given to only those officers who certify that they are not using any Government vehicle for commuting between residence and office. Transport allowance is not admissible to those officers who are residing within one Km. distance from their office. Transport allowance is also not being given to those officers who have been given self driven vehicles.

Telephone Adalats in Jharkhand

4530. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Telephone Adalats organized in Jharkhand during the last one year;

(b) the number of cases referred to these Adalats and disposed of during the above period; and

(c) the steps proposed to reduce the cases in these Adalats?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) A total number of 21 telephone Adalat were organised in Jharkhand during the last one year.

(b) 601 number of cases were referred to these Adalats during the last one year and 567 were disposed of during this period.

(c) The steps proposed to reduce the cases in these Adalats are as below:

By settling the excess metering complaints and other complaints at the earliest at administrative level.

By popularizing the dynamic locking facility and publishing the tariff frequently.

By improving the telecom network for fault minimization.

By reducing the waiting list for new telephone connections by augmentation of telecom network.

Penalty Imposed by Courts in U.P.

†4531. SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 1184 given in the Rajya Sabha on 14th March, 2002 and state:

(a) the officers who were fined and penalized by the court; and

(b) the details of those 13 cases in which the court had fined the officers alongwith the charges in each case indicating the observation made, fine and penalty imposed in each case?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.